

**Public Hearing Minutes
of the
Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control Board
February 16, 2011**

A public hearing of the Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control Board was called to order on February 16, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control District, 850 Barret Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky, by the Chairman, Dr. Robert Powell.

General Statement, Rules and Purpose

The Chairman read the opening announcements, rules and purpose of the Public Hearing which was to review one Agreed Board Order.

1. Agreed Board Order with American Synthetic Rubber Company

Ms. Terri Phelps, District Enforcement Manager, stated that the District alleged that American Synthetic Rubber Company (ASRC) violated the terms of its operating permit; and federal and District regulations.

ASRC, a division of Michelin North America, owns and operates a synthetic rubber manufacturing facility pursuant to a Title V operating permit issued by the District. The District alleged that on four occasions in 2010, ASRC reported that its flare system emitted visible smoke during upsets that lasted for more than the five minutes allowed by federal regulations and its operating permit. ASRC identified the cause to be a plugged thermal oxidizer flame arrester and a problem with a valve in the c-flare secondary smoke suppressant system. The company agreed to install an alarm in the control room to immediately alert the operators to switch from the thermal oxidizer to the flare.

The company agreed to pay an administrative penalty of \$6,000, install a new alarm system, and implement standard operating procedures for operators who respond to the alarm by March 15, 2011. The District recommended that the Board adopt the Agreed Board Order, as proposed.

Statements

Mr. Brad Karas, Chief Operating Officer of ASRC, stated the company is committed to environmental excellence and performance, and apologized for appearing before the Board again for a violation of its operating permit. Mr. Karas explained how the violation occurred and how the company planned to correct the problems with the flare thermal oxidizer system by March 15, 2011. Mr. Karas asked the Board to approve the Agreed Board Order.

Dr. Al-Shami asked what amount of 1,3 butadiene was emitted when the flare thermal oxidizer failed. Mr. Karas said the oxidizer was fully functional and operational, and only smoke was visible when the malfunctions occurred.

Adjournment

The public hearing adjourned at 10: 07 a.m.

Robert W. Powell, M.D.
Chairman

Rachael Hamilton
Secretary-Treasurer